

L-L WEEKLY

The Weekly Pewsheets of the Leith-Lyvennet Parishes

Joint Songs of Praise

Following the success of last year, another joint service will be held on Sunday **31st August** at **Shap Wells Hotel**. Please note the service begins at **10.30**, not 11.00 as stated in the Newsletter. If you wish to stay for a meal, please book your own lunch in advance by telephoning Shap Wells tel: 01931716628 no later than 22nd August. If you wish to sit together, please inform the hotel of your wish to be part of the Church group.

Congratulations Ted!

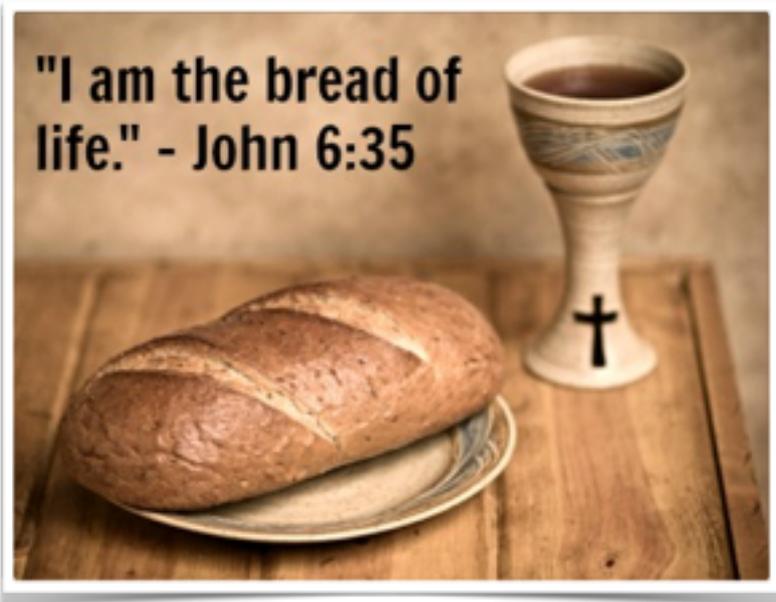
Many congratulations to our dear brother, Ted Relph, who turns 90 this week. We're all delighted for you, Ted. Happy Birthday with love from us all.

Bolton House Group

Bolton House Group is meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 27th August at Willoway, Bolton. All welcome.

Thank you

Many thanks to all who have been involved with our various summer events. We have had a fantastically successful series of events despite the weather! Thank you all for your hard work and sense of fun.



About Today...

In this holiday season we take a break from our reading of Mark's Gospel and dip into the central passage of John's gospel - a passage which is central literally (the middle chapters) and central to John's understanding of Jesus' teaching. This central passage is about Jesus feeding us with the sort of food that leads to eternal life.

It may not be immediately obvious, but this is still about our key theme of the year - God's kingdom. Where Matthew, Mark and Luke portray God's kingdom as Jesus's main theme, John picks up on the Jewish phrase "the age to come", also used to describe God's kingdom - the age of God's rule (rather like JRR Tolkien's use of "the age of the King" at the climax of the Lord of the Rings). The life of God's kingdom or "the age to come" is described as "eternal life". So in the Bible "eternal life" is not just endless life. It is living God's way - as subjects of his kingdom.

In our epistle reading, St Paul describes what that life looks like in very practical down-to-earth terms. He describes a quality of relationship that is deeply attractive, but also very challenging for human flesh and blood. But the good news is that Jesus' flesh and blood is given to us to feed on and, since we are what we eat, by feeding on Jesus, these things gradually become our nature. So God himself provides what we need to live his life. Jesus explains that, just as bread feeds us for the life of this age, he himself is the bread of the new life of God's kingdom. Whoever eats this bread will have eternal life - a life that is not merely endless, but infinitely full.

For your prayers

- Our wedding couples, esp. Carmen Duncan and Greig Cairns, being married in Morland on Wednesday and Darren & Nicola Todd of Bolton, married in Yorkshire yesterday. Also Bill Somerville & Helen Taylor, whose banns are being read this morning in Morland.
- Our youth group, Eden Live, going to Soul Survivor on Friday.
- Those in mourning, particularly the families and friends of Eric Drake.
- Those on holiday from our fellowship and those holidaying among us.
- Our archdeacon, Kevin Roberts, on the second part of his sabbatical.
- The migration crisis: those who are refugees and those struggling to deal with the crisis.

From our calendar of prayer:

- In the Anglican Communion: Diocese of Rochester (the Episcopal Church of the USA), Bishop Prince Singh, clergy and people.
- This month we pray for Furness Deanery: Benefice of Dalton-in-Furness and Ireleth with Askam. Vicar: Allan Mitchell; Retired Priest: Daniel Sanderson; St Mary's and St Peter's Lay Ministry Teams.
- Bishop James on holiday and Bishop Robert.

Today's readings

Ephesians 4.25 - 5.2 (St Paul, writing to the early church in Ephesus explains how Christians should live)

25 So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. **5** ¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

John 6.35,41-51

35 Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' ⁴²They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' ⁴³Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

